

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

To:

COURTY, Philippe
89 bd. Exelmans
F-75016 PARIS
FRANCE

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internat ☒ Application No

PCT/FR 03/01220

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 F41A3/46 F41A3/74 F41A17/54 F41A9/68 F41A19/33
F41A3/62 F42B5/18

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 F41A F41G F42B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 3 345 770 A (SCANLON J.J.) 10 October 1967 (1967-10-10) cited in the application claims 1,3,4 figures 1,2	1
A	FR 849 727 A (STEYR-DAIMLER-PUCH AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT) 30 November 1939 (1939-11-30) cited in the application claims 1,2 figures 1,2	1
A	US 5 388 364 A (PALDINO ARTHUR) 14 February 1995 (1995-02-14) claim 3 figures 3,5	1

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Z document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

14 October 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

27/10/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Lostetter, Y

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internat. Application No.

PCT/FR 03/01220

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 3 680 242 A (WIESE HAROLD H) 1 August 1972 (1972-08-01) column 3, line 11-46 figures 1,2,4	1
A	DE 90 17 151 U (FIELD R.C.) 7 March 1991 (1991-03-07) cited in the application claims 1-7 figures 1-4	1
A	FR 2 082 183 A (FABRICATIONS MECA STE MO) 10 December 1971 (1971-12-10) cited in the application page 2, line 33 -page 3, line 10 figures 1-6	1
A	US 5 419 069 A (MUMBLEAU DEAN W ET AL) 30 May 1995 (1995-05-30) abstract figures 1-3,5	1
A	US 4 833 808 A (STRAHAN TRAVIS) 30 May 1989 (1989-05-30) cited in the application abstract figure 2	1
A	US 4 285 152 A (DEAN JOE O) 25 August 1981 (1981-08-25) column 2, line 45-64 figure 1	1
A	FR 2 308 076 A (CIVOLANI BRUNO) 12 November 1976 (1976-11-12) cited in the application claims 1-7 figures 1-4	1

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/FR 03/01220

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☒ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

see following sheet PCT/ISA/210 further informations

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

The wording of claim 1 encompasses a plurality of functional features which are not linked by a technical relationship. These features are the following:

- a sealing device, i.e. segment (41);
- a breech/barrel union device, i.e. a spherical peg (54);
- a combined cartridge ignition/ejection device, i.e. igniter/ejector (27) and extractor return, i.e. plunger (23);
- an extractor lifting device, i.e. ramp (59);
- a loader compartment sequencing device, i.e. stop (103) and slide (101);
- a device for placing the cartridges in the loader, i.e. bar (106) and pin (100bis);
- an anti-détente safety device, i.e. trigger guard (66);
- a key-actuated locking device, i.e. detachable lock (114);
- a shot stabiliser, i.e. vertical raising channel (90);
- a power-booster, i.e. telescopic barrel (138);
- an information transfer device, i.e. wire (125 ter and quart).

In view of the wording of claim 1, it appears difficult, if not impossible, to determine the subject matter for which protection is sought. The present application therefore does not meet the requirements of PCT Article 6 for clarity to such an extent that only novelty could be searched. It was not possible to determine whether the application is inventive because the problem addressed and its solution could not be defined (list of technical features in the independent claim). Consequently, the search was limited to the features of the independent claim, alone and in combination.

The applicant is advised that claims or parts of claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established cannot normally be the subject of an international preliminary examination (PCT Rule 66.1(e)). In its capacity as International Preliminary Examining Authority the EPO generally will not carry out a preliminary examination for subjects that have not been searched. This also applies to cases where the claims were amended after receipt of the international search report (PCT Article 19) or where the applicant submits new claims in the course of the procedure under PCT Chapter II.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/FR 03/01220

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 3345770	A	10-10-1967	NONE	
FR 849727	A	30-11-1939	BE 432488 A CH 207366 A	31-10-1939
US 5388364	A	14-02-1995	NONE	
US 3680242	A	01-08-1972	NONE	
DE 9017151	U	07-03-1991	DE 9017151 U1	07-03-1991
FR 2082183	A	10-12-1971	FR 2082183 A5	10-12-1971
US 5419069	A	30-05-1995	NONE	
US 4833808	A	30-05-1989	NONE	
US 4285152	A	25-08-1981	NONE	
FR 2308076	A	12-11-1976	IT 1029293 B AR 222957 A1 AT 341374 B AT 254276 A AU 498394 B2 AU 1275876 A BE 840195 A1 CA 1055745 A1 CH 601764 A5 DE 2614639 A1 DK 143076 A ,B, ES 446927 A1 FI 760997 A ,B, FR 2308076 A1 GB 1514139 A IL 49295 A JP 1252100 C JP 51127599 A JP 59025960 B MX 144332 A NL 7603343 A ,B, NO 761256 A ,B, PT 65004 A ,B SE 426099 B US 4035943 A	10-03-1979 15-07-1981 10-02-1978 15-05-1977 08-03-1979 13-10-1977 16-07-1976 05-06-1979 14-07-1978 28-10-1976 15-10-1976 16-05-1977 15-10-1976 12-11-1976 14-06-1978 30-11-1979 26-02-1985 06-11-1976 22-06-1984 30-09-1981 18-10-1976 15-10-1976 01-05-1976 06-12-1982 19-07-1977